IN THE SPECIFICATION;

At page 1, before line 4, please add the following:

This application was filed under § 371 as a national phase application of international application PCT/NL03/00127 filed February 20, 2003, which claimed priority to European Application 02075690.4, filed on February 20, 2002.

Please amend the paragraph beginning **at page 15**, line 25 and running through **page 16,** line, 6, as follows:

Nucleotide sequences encoding Hedgehog proteins

Although the intended use of hh proteins produced by mammalian, insect, or microbial cell culture, or transgenic mammals or alternatively produced *in situ* in bacteria endogenous *i.e.*, common to the flora of the GI tract is usually administered to humans, the species from which the DNA segment encoding a hh sequence is obtained is not necessarily human. Due to the high percentage of homology between the hh homologues of different species, *e.g.*, human, mouse, Drosophila, zebrafish, and rat (available at the NCBI website the URL of which is: ~~www.~~ncbi.nlm.nih.gov, under accession numbers: XM _050846, NM_000193, XM_090366, NM_010544, XM_082291, AF124382, and NM_017221) all hh sequences can be used as the provide for the same functionality and are fully interchangeable. The three known hh sequences, *i.e.*, Indian, Sonic and Desert, are equally homologue to such an extent that any hh variant can be applied in the invention. This notion is exemplified by treating colon cancer cells successfully with Shh resulting into differentiation and riddance of the cancerous colon cells, while the natural ligand is in fact Ihh.